

Section I: AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Cancelled).
2. (Currently Cancelled).
3. (Currently Cancelled).
4. (Currently Amended) A method of mapping a travel route based on end point input and traffic conditions, said method comprising:

receiving a starting point and a destination;

receiving traffic information related to traffic flow conditions;

storing said traffic information in a map database, said map database also including static route information; and

accessing said mapping database to determine a travel route based on said static route information and said traffic information ~~The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein storing traffic information comprises analyzing said received traffic information and providing a traffic change indicium whenever a change is detected in said traffic information relevant to a current route.~~

5. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 4 and further including detecting a presence of said traffic change indicium wherein a route segment is automatically recalculated whenever said traffic change indicium is detected.

6. (Currently Cancelled).

7. (Currently Cancelled).

8. (Currently Cancelled).

9. (Currently Cancelled).

10. (Currently Cancelled).

11. (Currently Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing a computer program, said medium being selectively operable when read by a reading device for providing program signals for mapping a travel route based on end point input and traffic conditions, said program signals being selectively operable for:

enabling a receipt of a starting point and a destination;

enabling a receipt of traffic information related to relatively current traffic flow conditions;

storing said traffic information in a map database, said map database also including static route information; and

accessing said mapping database to determine a travel route based on said static route information and said traffic information,  
~~The medium as set forth in claim 9 wherein~~ storing traffic information comprises analyzing said received traffic information and providing a traffic change indicium whenever a change is detected in said traffic information relevant to a current route.

13. (Original) The medium as set forth in claim 12 and further including detecting a presence of said traffic change indicium wherein a route segment is automatically recalculated whenever said traffic change indicium is detected.

14. (Currently Cancelled).

15. (Currently Cancelled).

16. (Currently Cancelled).

17. (Currently Cancelled).

18. (Currently Cancelled).

19. (Currently Cancelled).

20. (Currently Cancelled).

21. (Currently Cancelled).

22. (Original) A method for automatically updating a selected travel route for a vehicle whenever a change in related traffic conditions is detected, said method comprising:

determining said selected travel route based upon a first traffic condition;

receiving traffic information including a current traffic condition applicable to said selected travel route;

detecting a change from said first traffic condition to said current traffic condition; and

recalculating said travel route based upon said current traffic condition.

23. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 22 wherein said recalculating is accomplished whenever said change exceeds a predetermined threshold value.

24. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 23 wherein said recalculating is accomplished whenever said change exceeds said predetermined threshold value for a predetermined period of time.

25. (Original) A method for automatically updating a selected travel route for a vehicle whenever said vehicle strays from a selected travel route, said method comprising:

determining said selected travel route, said selected travel route comprising a series of travel points along said selected travel route;

receiving current position information related to a current position of said vehicle;

comparing said current position information with said selected travel route; and

recalculating said travel route to provide a new travel route whenever said current position is not along said selected travel route.

26. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 25 wherein said current position information is received from a global positioning system (GPS).

27. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 26 wherein said current position information is received from said GPS on a continuing basis.

28. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 25 wherein said recalculating is accomplished using said current position as a starting point for said new travel route.

29. (Original) The method as set forth in claim 25 wherein said selected travel route is based upon a first traffic condition, said method further including:

receiving traffic information including current traffic conditions applicable to said selected travel route;

detecting a change in traffic conditions from said first traffic condition to said current traffic condition; and

recalculating said travel route whenever predetermined changes are detected in either said traffic conditions or whenever said current position is not along said selected travel route.